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NEWS

Winchester Hospital employee completes training in Japan with Mass. National Guard

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Tech. Sgt. Jose Barada, a respiratory therapist at Winchester Hospital, recently returned from a two-week deployment for training at Yokota Air Base, Japan, where he worked as a heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration (HVAC/R) specialist. COURTESY PHOTO/MASS NATIONAL GUARD

The following was submitted by the Massachusetts National Guard:

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Tech. Sgt. Jose Barada, a Swampscott native and a respiratory therapist at Winchester Hospital, recently returned from a two-week deployment for training at Yokota Air Base, Japan, where he served with the Massachusetts Air National Guard.

Barada serves as a heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration (HVAC/R) specialist with the 102nd Civil Engineer Squadron (CES), within the Massachusetts Air National Guard.

Tech. Sgt. Jose Barada serves as a heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration (HVAC/R) specialist with the 102nd Civil Engineer Squadron. COURTESY PHOTO/MASS NATIONAL GUARD

From July 1–12, he joined fellow Airmen in completing key construction and infrastructure projects as part of the National Guard Bureau's deployment for training (DFT) program. Working alongside their active-duty counterparts from the 374th Civil Engineer Squadron, the 102nd CES team gained hands-on experience while supporting real-world base improvements.

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"The primary purpose of this DFT is to allow our Airmen to work together as one team and to work on projects that we wouldn't normally get to work on," said Lt. Col. Jeffrey Andrieu, the 102nd CES commander. "It allows us to integrate with the active duty and get a little perspective on how they work and operate. It gives us that opportunity to integrate as a total force."

Tech. Sgt. Jose Barada serves in the Mass. National Guard, but is a a respiratory therapist at Winchester Hospital. COURTESY PHOTO/MASS NATIONAL GUARD

During the deployment, Airmen strengthened technical skills while contributing lasting improvements to Yokota Air Base. As the supervisor of the HVAC/R shop, Barada led his team in installing three new mini-split air conditioning units in leadership offices and K-9 workspaces, improving climate control in key operational areas.

The team also diagnosed refrigerant leaks, repaired faulty comp and completed electrical and plumbing upgrades, providing critic

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on experience in system troubleshooting and refrigerant handling. These missions provide valuable experience and help build both confidence and capability across the force.

Tech. Sgt. Jose Barada recently returned from a two-week deployment for training at Yokota Air Base, Japan. COURTESY PHOTO/MASS NATIONAL GUARD

Barada's participation highlights the essential role of employers in supporting National Guard members. By providing the flexibility to serve, companies like Winchester Hospital enable dedicated employees to enhance their leadership, technical expertise and crisis-response skills, bringing that value back to the workplace and community. Employer support is a cornerstone of the National Guard's mission readiness.

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joined his colleagues in the Massachusetts Senate to pass legislation that protects residents from discrimination in the housing market as the Trump administration abandons its enforcement of the federal Fair Housing Act. Illegal discrimination continues

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FEATURES

'Chicago: Teen Edition' dances onto the Winchester High School stage

By Talia Ho | Correspondent Fame. Fortune. And all that jazz. This spring, Winchester High School presents "Chicago: Teen Edition," a bold musical that explores celebrity culture, media manipulation, and the cost of ambition. Set in the 1920s, this iconic production is sure to leave the audience wanting more. Performances will

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EVENTS

Ripley Chapel in Winchester presents 'Syldason: You Are Welcome Here'

The following was submitted by the Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church: On Friday, March 13, beginning at 7:30 p.m., live in-person and live streamed from the stunning Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church, Winchester, 21 Church St., join in with Syldason, a duo concert featuring Sylvie Zakarian,

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